

Franklin Township Ground Water Contamination Site

Franklin Township, Somerset County

POTABLE WELL TESTING

The Franklin Township Ground Water Contamination Site is located in the area of Bennington Parkway off Route 27 near Finnigan's Lane. To date, sampling has identified approximately ten homes in the area with Trichloroethene (TCE) and Tetrachloroethene (PCE) contamination over the state standard. These residents have been advised to discontinue use of their wells for potable purposes. Trichloroethene is a colorless liquid used extensively as a solvent in the vapor degreasing of fabricated metal parts. It may be found in printing inks, varnishes, paints, lacquers, adhesives, spot removers, rug cleaners and disinfectants. PCE is also colorless and commonly used as a dry cleaning solvent. The Maximum Contaminant Levels, or Safe Drinking Water Standards, for both of these contaminants is 1 part per billion (1 ppb) or 1 microgram per liter (1 ug/L). No responsible party has been identified.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) will be conducting investigations and will continue to take potable well samples of the residents in the area that may be affected in order delineate the extent of the contamination to ensure safe drinking water. If contamination is found in any potable well over the MCL, the state will confirm the results with a second sample. Upon confirmation over the MCL, the resident will then be eligible for a state funded treatment system or city water hookup.

On April 28, 2004 NJDEP met with residents to provide information about the investigation and about testing regimes, city water hookups, Spill Fund eligibility, and health and economic effects.

**For further information, contact Karen Kloo
NJDEP Office of Community Relations at (609) 777-1971,
or write**

**Ms. Kloo at the Office of Community Relations
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